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Message Text

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SUBJECT: AIN SHAMS ENGLISH TEACHING PROJECT

REF: STATE 59183; CAIRO 2374; STATE 38924

1. UCLA INTERESTED UNDERTAKING AS ENGLISH PROJECT. PROPOSES TO SEND CLIFFORD PRATOR, SENIOR PROFESSOR AND FORMER DEPARTMENT CHAIRMAN TO AS SEPT-DEC 1975 ACCOMPANIED BY YOUNG PHD, PROBABLY GROVER HUDSON, PHD LINGUISTICS, UCLA, FORMER PCV ETHIOPIA, ALSO LATER TAUGHT HAILE SELASSIE UNIVERSITY. ALSO ONE MA, PROBABLY FROM UCLA, EXPERIENCED IN CURRICULUM/MATERIALS DEVELOPMENT. THIS IS MAXIMUM UCLA COULD PROVIDE 1975-76 ACADEMIC YEAR ON SHORT NOTICE.

2. UCLA WOULD PROVIDE FOR EACH OF SUCCEEDING FOUR YEARS SENIOR PROFESSOR OF PRATOR LEVEL FOR FULL YEAR'S TENURE. HUDSON WOULD STAY TWO YEARS AND WOULD BE SUCCEEDED BY COMPARABLE PERSON. NEEDS OF PROJECT WOULD DETERMINE
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SIZE AND LEVEL OF STAFFING BEYOND FIRST YEAR.

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3. UCLA INTERESTED IN PROJECT REGARDLESS OF WHETHER IT IS ORGANIZED AS PROPOSED IN ALDEN REPORT OR ALONG "SEMI-AUTONOMOUS CENTER" LINES AS OUTLINED EMBTEL 2374 AND

DEPTEL 59183 OR ANY MODIFICATION THEREOF. CAMPBELL OF UCLA SUGGESTED POSSIBILITY OF URGING BRITISH COUNCIL TO INCREASE ITS PRESENT COMMITMENT TO AS FROM TWO TO FOUR PEOPLE AND UNDERTAKING REVISION OF SECOND YEAR ENGLISH COURSES IN ADDITION TO FIRST YEAR COURSE REVISIONS ALREADY UNDERWAY. UCLA WOULD THEN CONCENTRATE ON METHODOLOGY CURRICULUM. WHILE THIS IS NEATER DIVISION RESPONSIBILITY THAN ARRANGEMENT PROPOSED IN ALDEN REPORT, SOME QUESTION HERE AS TO WHETHER EGYPTIANS WOULD AGREE TO FOREGO AMERICAN INPUT INTO LANGUAGE COMPONENT OR EVEN IF IT IS IN OUR INTERESTS TO DO SO.

4. BECAUSE OF TIME FACTOR IT IS POSSIBLE TO SEPARATE ISSUE OF UCLA AS CONTRACTOR FROM FINAL ORGANIZATION OF PROJECT. DEPARTMENT'S NEED TO COMMIT FY 75 FUNDS TO PROJECT BEFORE END FISCAL YEAR AND UCLA'S NEED TO ARRANGE STAFF COMMITMENTS REQUIRE DECISION ON UCLA CONTRACT IN NEXT FEW WEEKS.

5. HOWEVER, BEFORE WE CAN UNDERTAKE COMMITMENT FOR NEXT FOUR YEARS, IT IS ESSENTIAL THAT FIRM AGREEMENT ON PROJECT DETAILS BE REACHED WITH GOE TO GUARD AGAINST DIFFUSION OUR EFFORTS AND LESSENING IMPACT PROJECT ON PROBLEM OF ENGLISH COMPETENCE IN SCHOOLS.

6. ANOTHER URGENT ASPECT TO RAISE WITH GOE IS QUESTION OF ADEQUATE SPACE. AS FACULTY OF ED ENG DEPT NOW OPERATES TWELVE-HOUR-A-DAY TEACHING PROGRAM IN ORDER TO ACCOMMODATE STUDENTS WITH CLASSROOM SPACE. NO ROOM FOR LANGUAGE LABORATORY. NO SPACE PRESENT SET-UP TO ADD THREE FULL-TIME FACULTY TO STAFF WITH CONSEQUENT EXPANSION OF TEACHING ACTIVITIES. THIS PROBLEM SHOULD BE BROUGHT ATTENTION ISMAIL. POSSIBLE ADDITIONAL SPACE MIGHT BE OBTAINED BY UTILIZING NEARBY FACILITIES OF MANSHIET-EL-BAKRY IN SERVICE TRAINING CENTER WHICH HAS CONFIDENTIAL

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LINGUISTIC UNIT, GOOD EL LIBRARY, UNDER-UTILIZED LANGUAGE LABORATORY, AND CLASSROOM FACILITIES WHICH MAY NOT BE UTILIZED FULLY EXCEPT IN SUMMER WHEN TEACHERS FREE TO ATTEND IN-SERVICE COURSES. BRITISH COUNCIL HAS MAN WORKING THERE, GEORGE LITTLE, AND INQUIRIES MIGHT BE MADE OF DANIEL AS TO PRESENT SPACE UTILIZATION AT MANSHIET-EL-BAKRY. WAS TOLD BY DR. HELMY THAT HE WAS TRYING TO GET USE OF SOME OF THAT SPACE. REALIZE

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THAT IN-SERVICE TRAINING CENTER UNDER JURISDICTION OF MINISTRY OF EDUCATION WHICH COMPLICATES PROBLEM ITS USE BY AS.

7. IN REGARD TO BACKSTOPPING AMERICAN PROFESSORS AT AS WILL EMBASSY BE ABLE TO ASSIST, EITHER DIRECTLY OR THROUGH NEGOTIATED LOCAL ARRANGEMENTS, STAFF TO OBTAIN SUITABLE HOUSING? WOULD COMMISSARY BE OPEN TO AMERICAN STAFF? UNDER PRESENT UCLA-AUC CONTRACT, LATTER PROVIDED HOUSING AND OTHER ASSISTANCE IN SETTLING AMERICAN STAFF TO MINIMIZE TIME LOST FROM PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITY.
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